



# NEWS RELEASE

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## **CONNECTICUT ARMY NATIONAL GUARD UNIT MOBILIZED FOR OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM**

HARTFORD, Conn., - Maj. Gen. William A. Cugno, Adjutant General and Commander of the Connecticut National Guard, announces that approximately 60 soldiers from the 143d Forward Support Battalion (FSB) of Waterbury and Southington are mobilized in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. The unit will deploy to Camp Atterbury, Indiana in early July.

The unit will be part of Operation Iraqi Freedom rotation number four and are scheduled to be on active duty for up to 18 months. The 143<sup>rd</sup> FSB is commanded by Lt. Col. Loring Boyden of Canterbury, Conn.

The primary mission of the 143<sup>rd</sup> FSB is to provide support to combat-ready forces such as personnel administration support, operational and logistical support.

Currently, four Connecticut Army National Guard units are stationed in Iraq, the 143<sup>rd</sup> Area Support Group of Newington, a detachment of C Company, 102d Infantry Battalion of Bristol, the 141<sup>st</sup> Medical Company of New Britain and the 189<sup>th</sup> Aviation of Windsor Locks. Additionally, the Connecticut Army National Guard has the 208<sup>th</sup> Personnel Service Detachment (PSD) stationed in Kuwait.

(MORE)

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The 118<sup>th</sup> Medical Battalion just returned Soldiers from Iraq but they will remain on Title 10 active duty status for the next 60 to 90 days.

The Connecticut National Guard has 450 Soldiers and Airmen mobilized and deployed in support of the Global War on Terror.

The 143<sup>rd</sup> FSB mobilized and deployed to Bosnia in September 2001, in support of Operation Joint Forge, a NATO peacekeeping operation in Bosnia-Herzegovina. The unit returned home March 2002, after a six-month deployment.

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